

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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GOV. EASLEY TO TESTIFY BEFORE U.S. SENATE FOR MORE STATE CONTROL OVER THE NATIONAL GUARD

He Will Represent State and Nation's Governors Before Senate Judiciary Committee

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley will testify <u>at 2:30 p.m. TODAY, April 24</u> before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee in Washington, D.C., on legislation to clarify the authority of governors over the National Guard. The committee meeting will be in 266 Dirksen Senate Office Building on Capitol Hill.

Easley will represent the state of North Carolina and the nation's governors, as the National Governors Association's co-lead on the National Guard. The committee will deal with legislation to repeal a section of the National Defense Authorization Act that weakens the authority of governors while increasing the power of the president over the National Guard. The provision has been criticized for creating confusion about who is in charge of the National Guard, particularly in the case of domestic emergencies, including natural disasters.

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